



Fig. 1. Female tree cricket crawling on tree trunk at night.

male (lacking the ovipositor visible in Figure 1) had inflated a glistening bulbous structure at the apex of its abdomen (Plate IV, Figure 3).

Unfortunately, in photographing this structure, my foot brushed against one of the buttress roots of the tree. The vibration was immediately sensed by both crickets which hurried out of sight up into the branches.

Courtship in some North American tree crickets involves the female nibbling a secretion from a gland in the male's back and this peculiar part of the cricket's anatomy might be an analogous organ.—Richard A. Jones, 13 Bellwood Road, Nunhead, London SE15 3DE.

**The rearing of *Clusiodes verticalis* (Collin) (Diptera: Clusiidae).**—At Sudbury Hill, Middx, in mid April 1982, a small oak branch lying on leaf litter in a copse was found to contain clusiid puparia. The branch measured 32 cm long and varied in diameter between 2.5 and 3.4 cm. It was extremely rotten but retained an intact cover of bark. The branch was placed in a seed propagator and kept indoors in a cool room.

Five *Clusiodes verticalis* emerged between early May and 30 May, comprising two males and three females (first and last specimens were females). This is of interest since large logs and stumps tend to yield *C. albimana* (Meig.) or *C. gentilis* (Collin). Thus *C. verticalis* may well be a specialist on small branches of the type described.

The same branch yielded two males of the mycetophilid *Symmerus annulatus* (Meig.) (15 and 21 May), eight of the tipulid *Austrolimnophila ochracea* (Meig.) (22 May–early June) and one specimen of the elaterid beetle *Denticollis linearis* (L.) (early June).—Alan E. Stubbs, 181 Broadway, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire PE1 4DS.

## BOOK REVIEW

**Stick insects of Britain, Europe and the Mediterranean**, by Paul Brock. Fitzgerald Publishing, PO Box 804, London SE13 5JF. ISBN 0951093983. 50pp. Price £15 [or £10 post free from publisher].—This is a comprehensive work covering all the 17 known species of Phasmatodea from Europe and North Africa, including those New Zealand species which have become naturalized in the British Isles.